

'Planet of Giants' is a good story for bottom enthusiasts, because Barbara and Susan both wear tight pants (Susan's are dungarees). In one scene in Part Two, Barbara faints when she sees the giant fly and Ian carries her to safety over his shoulder, which shows off her rear to especially good effect.

In fact it is Barbara, not Susan, who most deserves a spanking in this story. She gets some of the poisonous insecticide on her hand, and doesn't bother to tell anyone, even when she finds out what it is. She just rubs at it and presumably hopes it will go away. The Doctor scolds her about this in Part Three when the situation becomes known. I don't think this is a suitable point to have a spanking, however, because Barbara is still sick from the poison. So I'll save the rebuke until she has been cured and they are back in the TARDIS. The Doctor then tells her off sternly, as she has acted very foolishly and put her life at risk. Susan tries to speak up for Barbara, saying that she might have done the same in the situation, and the Doctor tells her that, if she had, she could look forward to a jolly good smacked bottom. Ian then looks significantly at Barbara, and leads her solemnly out of the console room. Susan can't read the look and asks, 'What was all that about?' The Doctor can, but merely gives an enigmatic chuckle. Cut to another TARDIS room where Ian is giving Barbara a spanking.

Somehow I find it more plausible that Barbara would be punished by Ian rather than the Doctor. At this stage of Who history, Ian was as much the hero as the Doctor, so authority was differently distributed, and the Doctor's right to spank Susan is probably clearer than any authority he might have over Barbara. The main sophistication I've introduced into this scenario is that Barbara is taken away to be punished in private (like 'going to the woodshed'). I see no problem in Sarah getting spanked in front of Harry, or Nyssa in front of Tegan, but Barbara in front of Susan strikes me as wrong. For Susan, Barbara is a figure of authority in her own right, so the Doctor and Ian take care not to undermine her position any more than she has done herself by her own foolish actions.